Back to the Future

Lessons from how our grandparents lived

Passing down sustainable skills

a. abilities that enable people to live well while **minimizing harm to the environment** and future generations

b. practical and cultural abilities that **helped previous generations sustain their lives**, families, and communities, skills worth preserving and passing on

c. knowledge that **doesn't become obsolete**, because it connects people to essential ways of living and to each other

d. abilities you could use to live well i**f modern conveniences disappeared tomorrow**

Skill sustainability

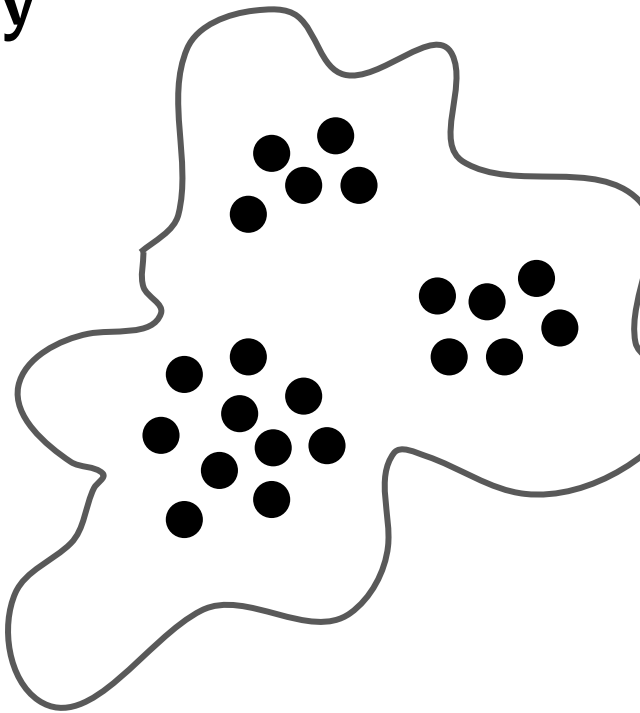
Why did this happen?

How did the generations before me live? Where they happy or not?

What skills do I teach my child (that would be resilient to changes)?

Medieval times -> 19th century

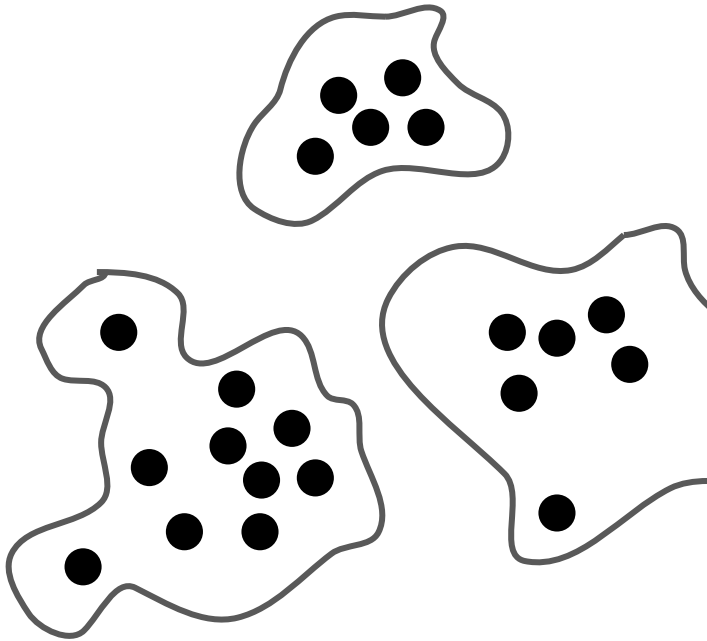
zadruga, the traditional South Slavic extended family commune — collective labor, shared land, intergenerational resilience



19/20th century

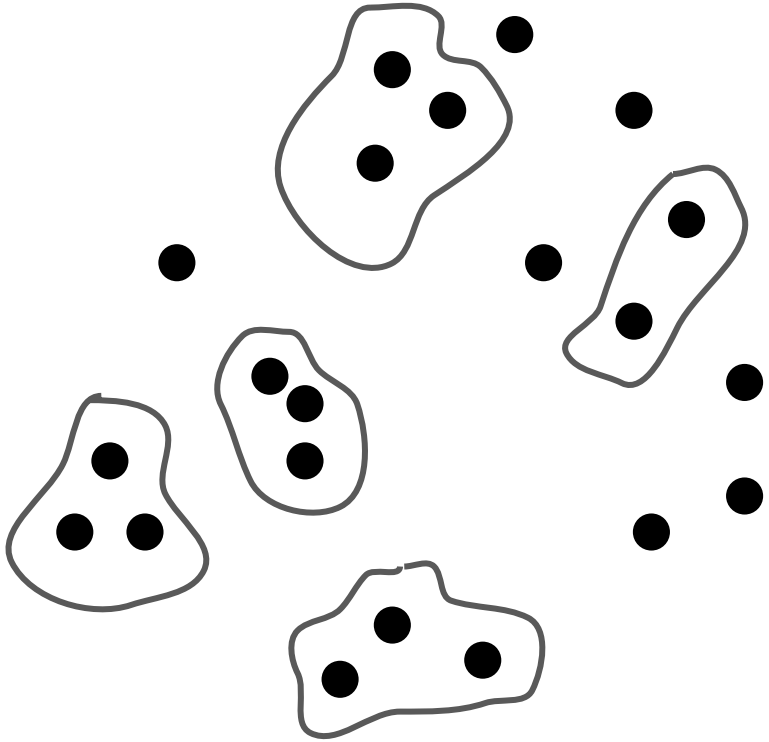
~~**zadruga**, the traditional South Slavic extended family commune — collective labor, shared land, intergenerational resilience.~~

1848 revolutions, industrialization, land reforms (1919), migration, individualism post-19th century, socialist policies



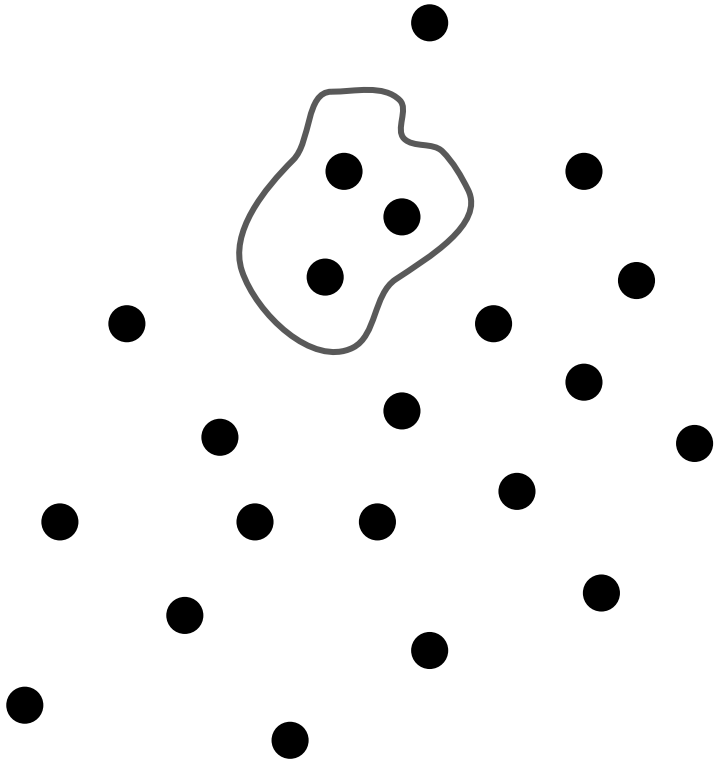
1950s - 1980s

rural electrification, state cooperatives, and migration to cities, collectivization attempts, inflation, supply shortages



Today

global supply chains, energy grids, digital platforms



Tomorrow?

Thanks!